institutions in Gujarat and other parts of the country. While answering these questions, the Home Secretary gave details of the action taken by the Central and State Governments to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

(c) A Central Team was deputed to Gujarat to interact with senior State Government functionaries in connection with the situation arising out of the reported attacks on Christians and their institutions and to ascertain the steps taken by the State authorities to control the situation. The Central Team recommended several confidence building measures to defuse the situation and to ensure communal harmony. Based on the report of the Central Team, appropriate instructions were issued.

Threat by Ranvir Sena

1574. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the so-called Ranvir Sena of Bihar, while brazenly taking responsibility of the recent Bihar massacres, in February, 1999, had again threatened to carry out further massacres; and

(b) if so, the steps since taken to apprehans the culprits and the success achieved in these efforts?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Some reports in this regard have come to notice.

(b) 18 activities of the Ranvir Sena have been arrested since 13.2.1999.

Funds for Border Road Development

1575. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government provide funds under Border Road Developpment to Assam Government for construction of roads;

(b) if so, whether the Centre monitor funds utilisation allotted to States since Assam Government diverted the funds to other projects coming under State programmes;

(c) how much money was allotted during the last two years to Assam Government under the programme; and

(d) how much money was spent on roads, particularly in sothern part of Assam known as Barak Valley having international border with Bangladesh, giving the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Technical Committee under the Director General (Works), Central Public Works Department and a High Level Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Union Home Secretary regularly monitor the progress of works and utilisation of funds under the Indo-Bangladesh Border Works Project.

(c) Rs. 1,200 lakhs and Rs. 760 lakhs were released to Government of Assam for construction of border roads and fence in 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively.

(d) An amount of Rs. 6997 lakhs released upto 31.3.1998 has been spent on construction of order roads (including bridges) in Dhubri, Karimganj and Cachar districts of Assam.

ISI activities in India

1576. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of ISI activities in India like its link with Madarsas in border areas (Hindustan Times, 16.5.1998); smuggling of counterfiet 500 Rupees notes (Business Standard, 25.5.1998); its infiltration in Armed Forces (Pioneer, 7.12.1998); its role in Mumbai Serial Blasts (Times of India, 4.9.1997); its role in Mumbai Serial Blasts (Times of India, 4.9. 1997); its activities in West Bengal (Observer, 10.12.1998) and Hyderbad (Indian Express, 10.7.1998); and

(b) what action is proposed to be taken in all these matters?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is aware that ISI of Pakistan is involved in aiding, abetting and supporting terrorism in various parts of the country. Available information indicates that this agency has been supporting and financing